

This is the identical volume recorded by Dr. Dibdin (See Library Companion I. 817) as belonging to Daniel Moore Esq. of Lincoln's Inn. . . . It is one of the Four only placed by the Doctor (and very justly) among the First Class copies of this most important book: being full thirteen inches in height, eight and a half in width, with the true portrait & title page, & the genuine Verses in the centre of the leaf facing the title page. . . . There are no spurious leaves foisted in from other editions - it is sound to the end. . . . Of this particular Four the Present Copy is by far the best. That in the Cracherode Collection has the Commendatory Verses by Ben Jonson facing the title page, inlaid - In the copy in the Esol Closet the fore-edges of some of the latter leaves have been damaged by a worm - and Mr. Fenville's copy - though a very fine one - has been in part washed and sized - and (though beautifully in red morocco by Charles Lewis) rebound. . . . This Copy is in the good old binding - unwashed, unsized, genuine and pure. . . .

It was privately purchased by Mr. Pickering, Bookseller, Chancery Lane of John Sage Kekewode Esq. (to whom it descended from his relation Daniel Moore Esq.) in January 1841. . . . and within forty eight hours after that purchase, it, for a becoming "consideration" became my property. Mr. Pickering showed his newly-acquired treasure to nobody but myself, having promised that should he ever be fortunate enough to obtain a matchless copy I should have the refusal of it. . . . George Daniel. Cannonbury Square, May 1841.